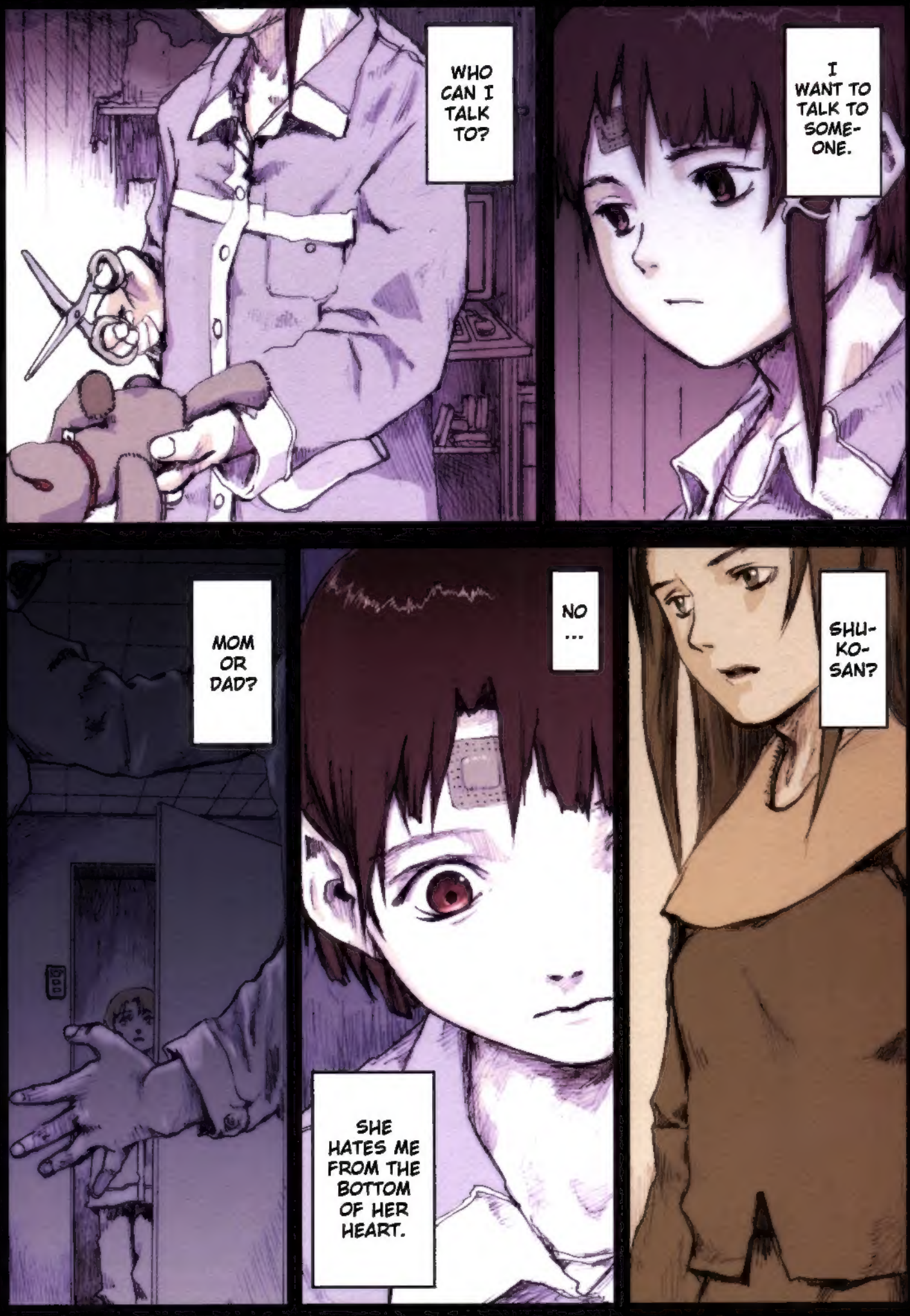
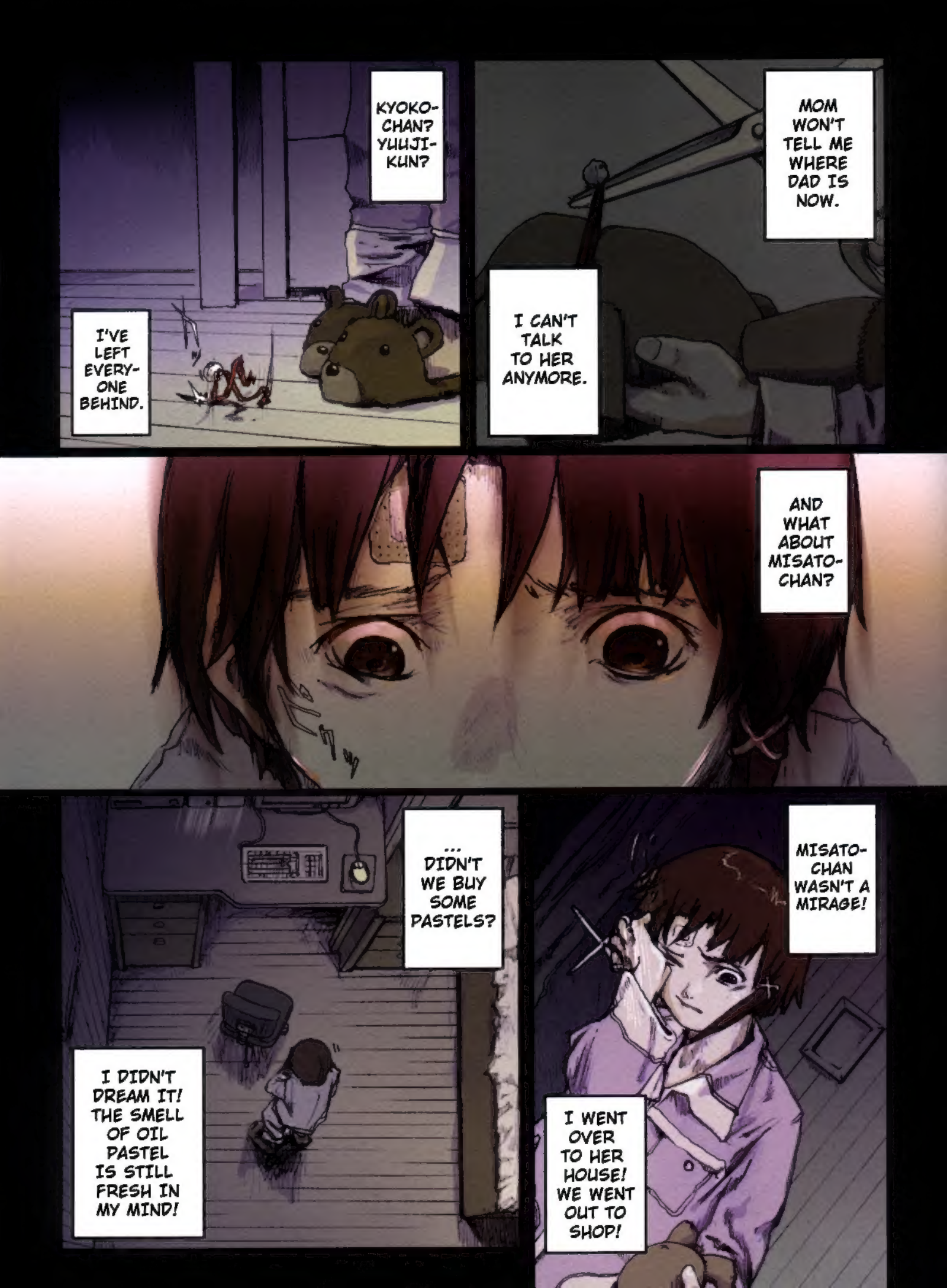
flobberworm.com

the nightmare of fabrication

(DC1029)


WHO CAN I TALK TO?
I WANT TO TALK TO SOME-ONE.
MOM OR DAD?
NO ...
SHE HATES ME FROM THE BOTTOM OF HER HEART.
SHU-KO-SAN?


KYOKO-CHAN? YUUJI-KUN?
I'VE LEFT EVERY-ONE BEHIND.
MOM WON'T TELL ME WHERE DAD IS NOW.
I CAN'T TALK TO HER ANYMORE.
AND WHAT ABOUT MISATO-CHAN?
... DIDN'T WE BUY SOME PASTELS?
I DIDN'T DREAM IT! THE SMELL OF OIL PASTEL IS STILL FRESH IN MY MIND!
MISATO-CHAN WASN'T A MIRAGE!
I WENT OVER TO HER HOUSE! WE WENT OUT TO SHOP!

I JUST ... I MEAN, I... I FEEL SO DISCONNECTED...
WHEN DID I GET THIS HEAD WOUND...
ARE MY MEMORIES DISJOINTED?
NO ONE ELSE KNOWS WHO MISATO-CHAN IS.
YES, BUT WHEN DID IT TAKE PLACE?
I'M NOT CONNECTED ... I'M NOT CONNECTED TO ANYBODY.
I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANYTHING KEEPING ME GROUNDED HERE.
IF I'M NOT GROUNDED ... I'LL JUST DISAPPEAR, RIGHT?
OH GOD, I'M SO SORRY.

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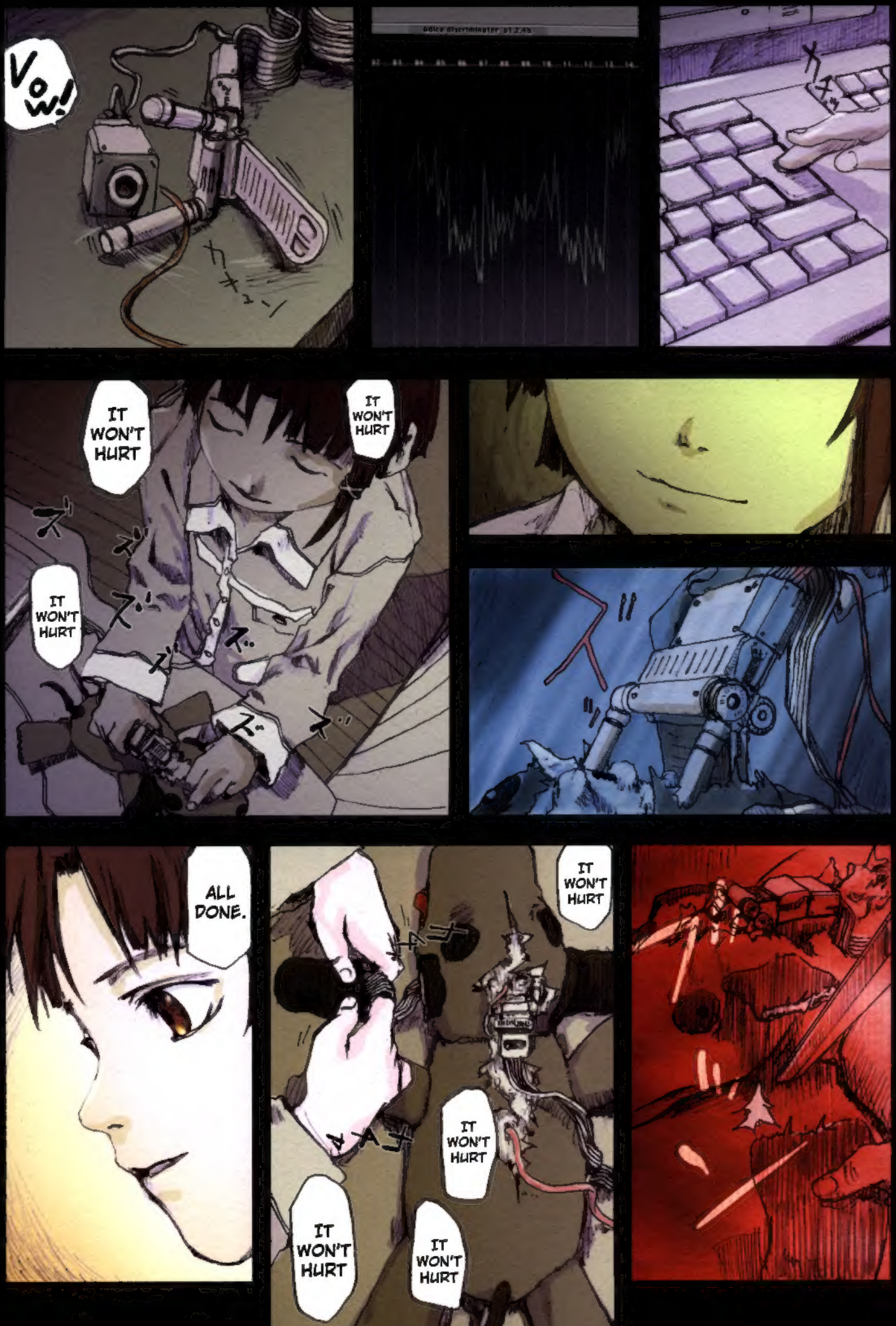
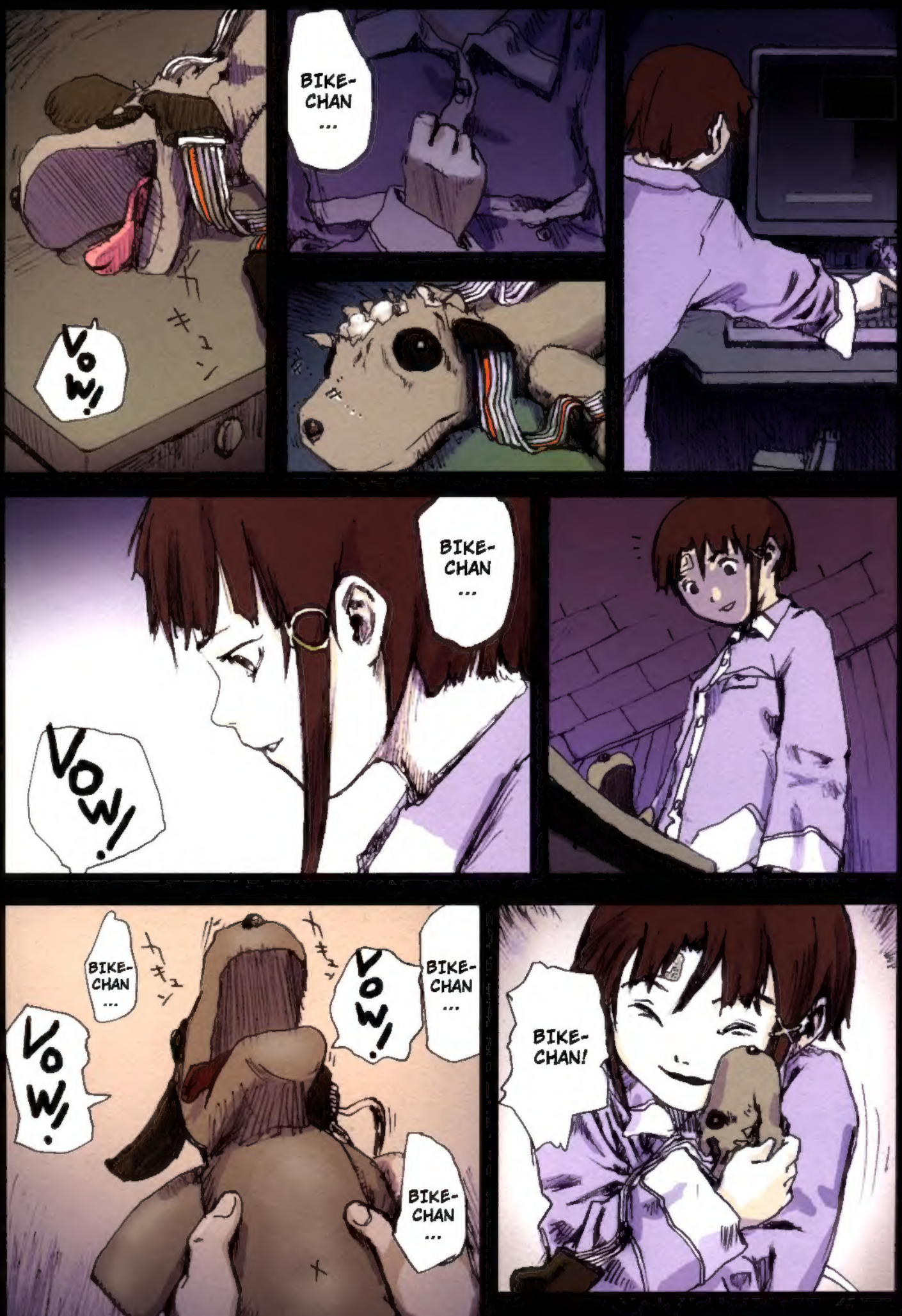
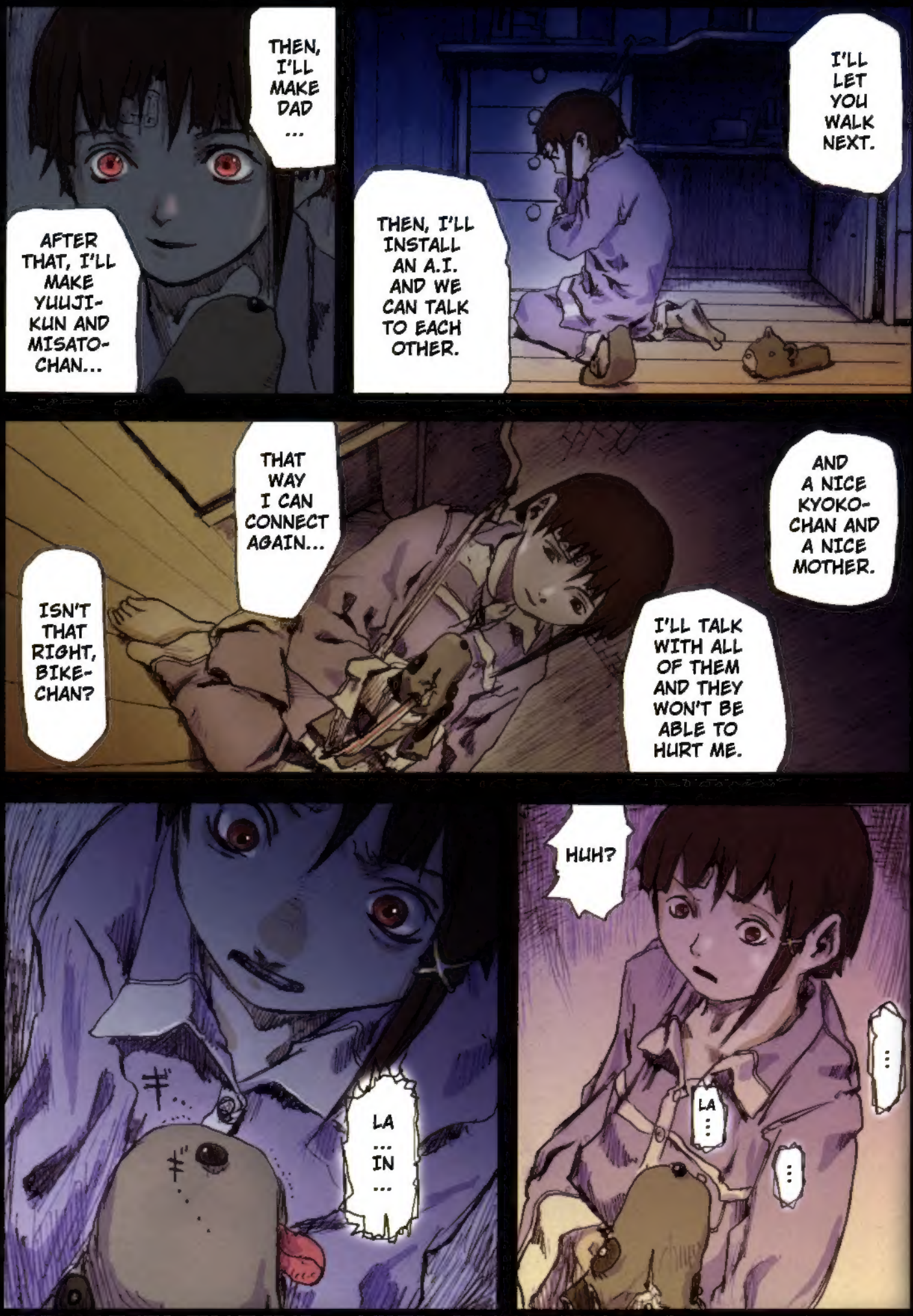
WAIT ... JUST A ...
BIT ...
MY SWEET ...


VOW!
IT WON'T HURT
IT WON'T HURT
IT WON'T HURT
IT WON'T HURT
ALL DONE.
IT WON'T HURT
IT WON'T HURT
IT WON'T HURT
IT WON'T HURT


VOW!
BIKE-CHAN ...
BIKE-CHAN ...
VOW!
BIKE-CHAN ...
BIKE-CHAN ...
VOW!
VOW!
BIKE-CHAN ...
BIKE-CHAN!


THEN, I'LL MAKE DAD ...
AFTER THAT, I'LL MAKE YUUJI-KUN AND MISATO-CHAN...
I'LL LET YOU WALK NEXT.
THEN, I'LL INSTALL AN A.I. AND WE CAN TALK TO EACH OTHER.
THAT WAY I CAN CONNECT AGAIN...
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, BIKE-CHAN?
AND A NICE KYOKO-CHAN AND A NICE MOTHER.
I'LL TALK WITH ALL OF THEM AND THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO HURT ME.
LA ... IN ...
HUH?
...
LA ...
...

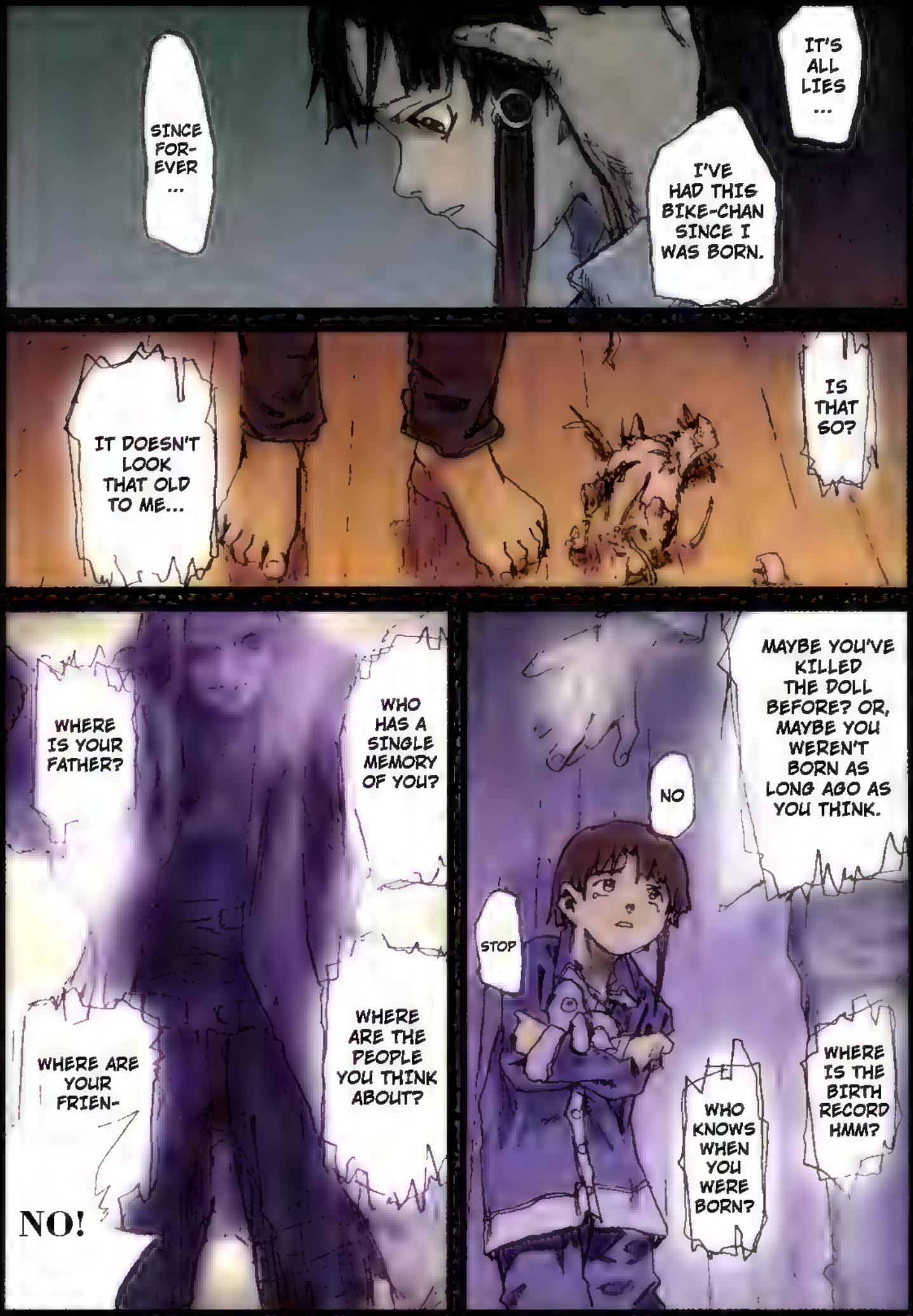
BIKE-
CHAN!
...!

LAIN
BIKE-CHAN ...
I AM SO S-
NO ...
NO ...
WHO'S THERE?!
LAIN ...
ARE YOU SAD BECAUSE YOU BROKE YOUR DOLL?
DO YOU WANT IT BACK?
YOU CAN DO THAT?
YES, I CAN ...
YES, I AM.

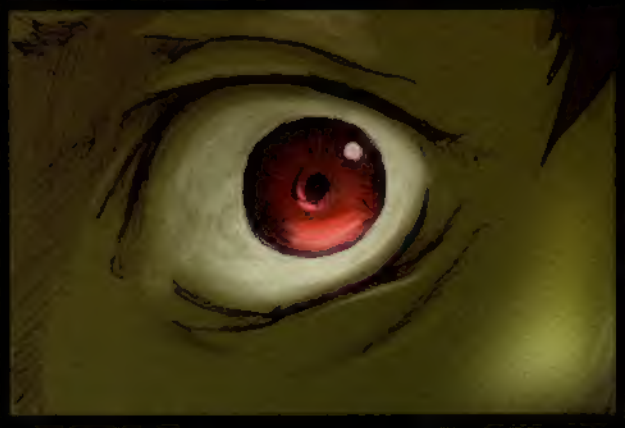
THINGS THAT BREAK CAN'T COME BACK. THE DEAD CANNOT BE BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE.
THOSE ARE THE RULES OF THIS WORLD, THAT I DON'T HAVE TO FOLLOW. I SPEAK TO A HIGHER AUTHORITY.
i
NOW, GIVE ME YOUR HAND.
YOU CAN CALL ME THAT IF YOU WISH TO.
ARE YOU GOD?

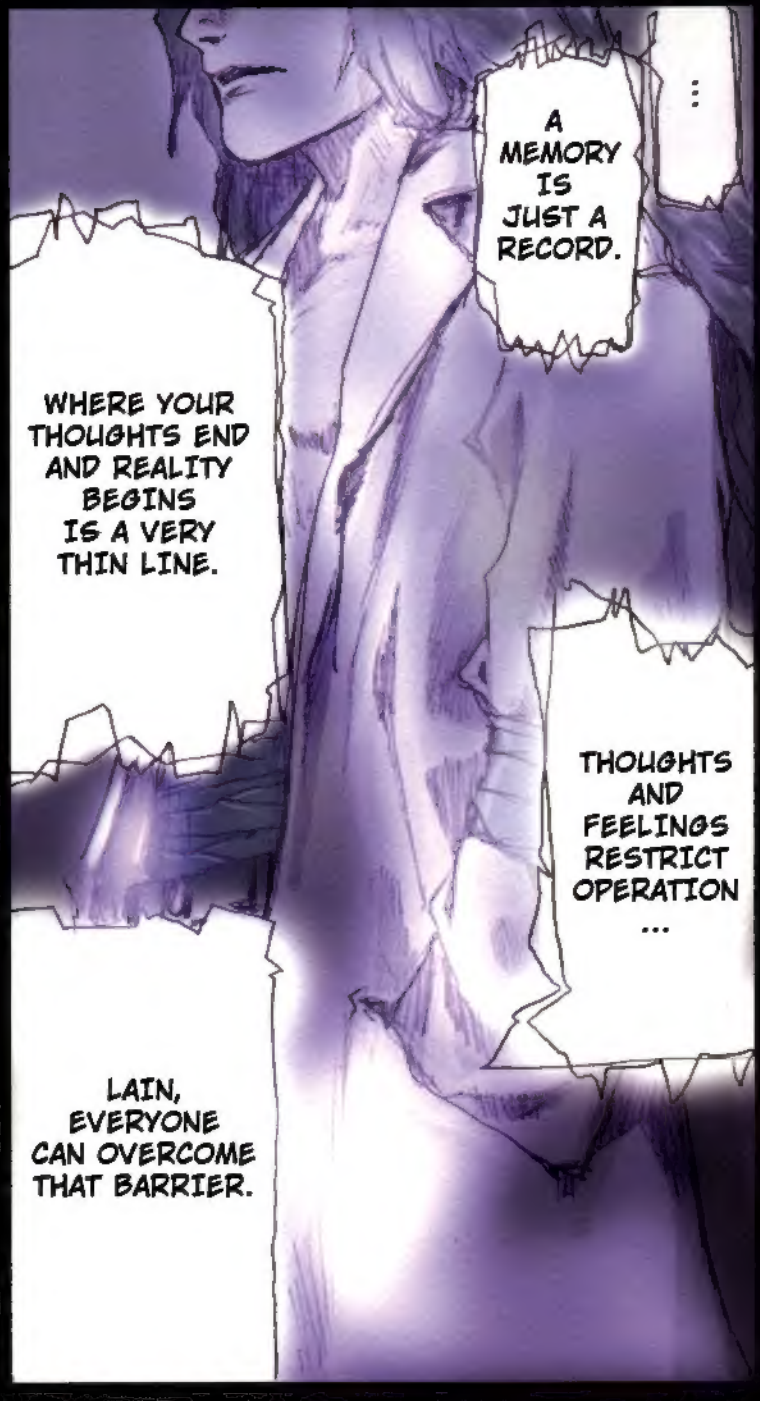
THERE ...
NO ONE WILL KNOW ABOUT THE ONE YOU KILLED. IF NO ONE KNOWS, IT CAN BE THE SAME AS IF IT NEVER HAPPENED AT ALL...
WE CAN SECRETLY DISPOSE OF THE BROKEN ONE...
FROM NOW ON... THAT IS THE ONLY ONE.
NO, YOU'RE WRONG ...
THERE'S ONLY ONE BIKE-CHAN.
A SUBSTITUTE ISN'T THE SAME AS BRINGING HIM BACK TO LIFE.

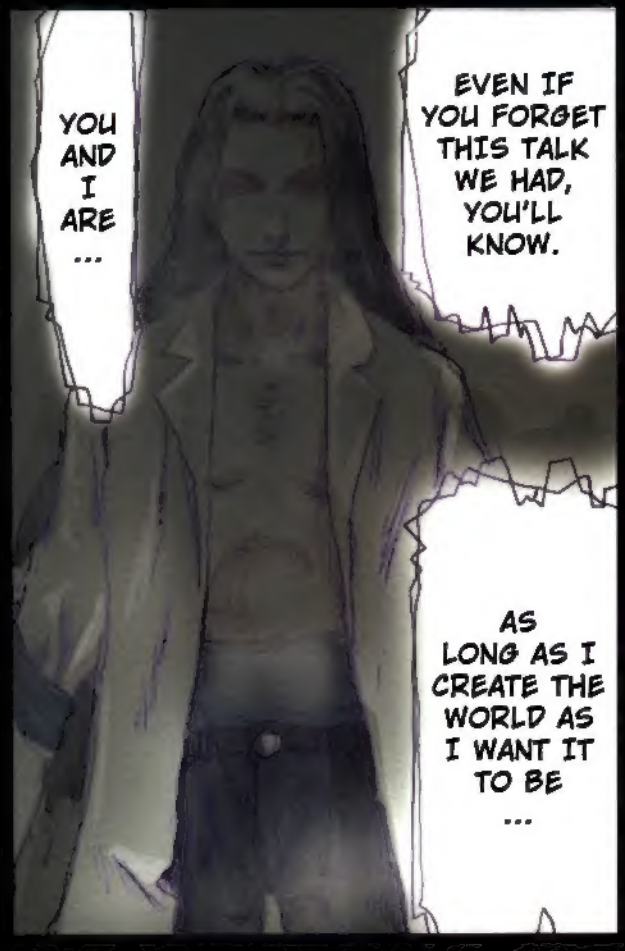
LIAR! I'LL KNOW! I'LL STILL HAVE THE MEMORIES!
IT'S OKAY TO BREAK THE RULES ...
BUT ...
NO ONE WILL KNOW.
IF YOU DO, YOU'LL HAVE YOUR DOLL AGAIN.
IF YOU DON'T REMEMBER, THAT WILL MAKE IT REAL ...
THEN, WE'LL REWRITE YOUR MEMORY, TOO.
NO!
HOW CAN YOU PROVE ME WRONG?
ALL YOU ARE IS WHAT YOU ARE AWARE OF...
DON'T LOOK SO AFRAID, LAIN...
YOU'VE DONE THIS MANY TIMES...

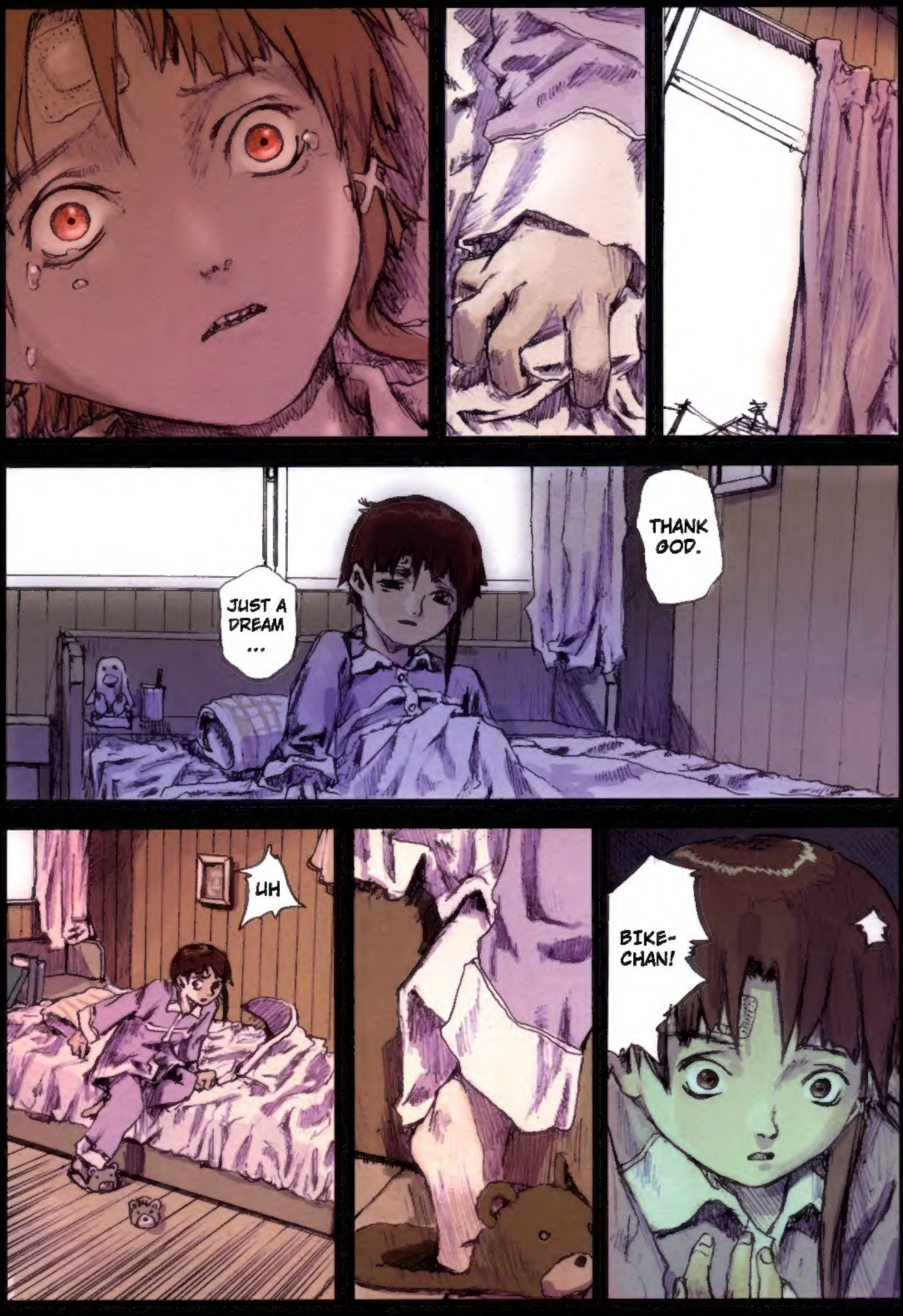

SINCE FOR-EVER ...
I'VE HAD THIS BIKE-CHAN SINCE I WAS BORN.
IT'S ALL LIES ...
IT DOESN'T LOOK THAT OLD TO ME...
IS THAT SO?
WHERE IS YOUR FATHER?
WHO HAS A SINGLE MEMORY OF YOU?
WHERE ARE YOUR FRIEN-
WHERE ARE THE PEOPLE YOU THINK ABOUT?
NO!
MAYBE YOU'VE KILLED THE DOLL BEFORE? OR, MAYBE YOU WEREN'T BORN AS LONG AGO AS YOU THINK.
NO
STOP
WHO KNOWS WHEN YOU WERE BORN?
WHERE IS THE BIRTH RECORD HMM?

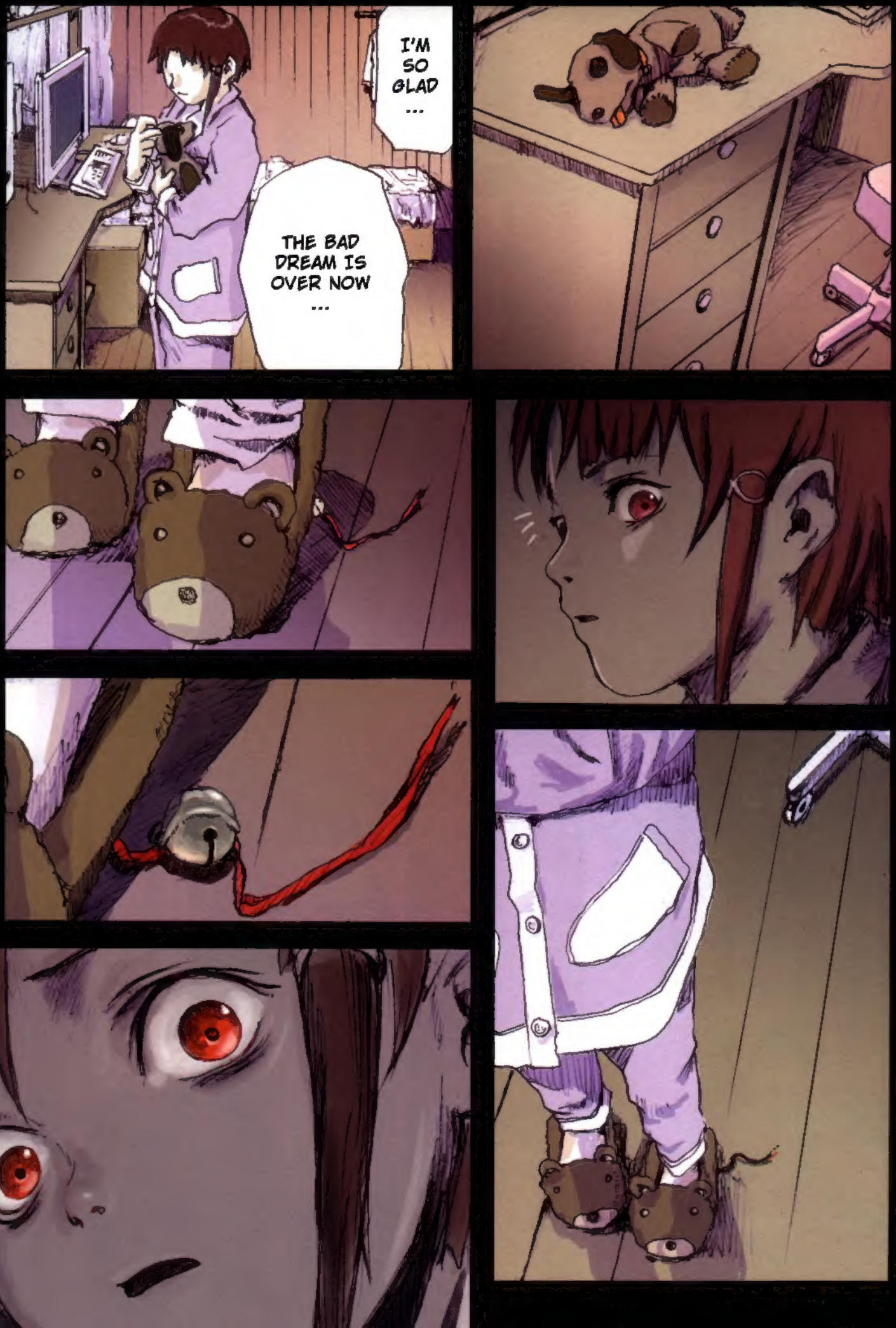
STOP IT!
I'M ME!
I'M MY-SELF!
THIS IS THE ONLY ...
REAL-ITY




...
A MEMORY IS JUST A RECORD.
WHERE YOUR THOUGHTS END AND REALITY BEGINS IS A VERY THIN LINE.
THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS RESTRICT OPERATION ...
LAIN, EVERYONE CAN OVERCOME THAT BARRIER.


YOU AND I ARE ...
EVEN IF YOU FORGET THIS TALK WE HAD, YOU'LL KNOW.
AS LONG AS I CREATE THE WORLD AS I WANT IT TO BE ...


THANK GOD.
JUST A DREAM ...
UH
BIKE-CHAN!


I'M SO GLAD ...
THE BAD DREAM IS OVER NOW ...

I DIDN'T WANT TO THINK ABOUT IT, SO I BURIED IT UNDER THE SWINGS OUT IN THE BACKYARD.

I REMEMBERED A TERRIFYING DREAM, BUT NONE OF THE DETAILS.

A BROKEN BELL.
I COULDN'T FIGURE OUT WHY IT WAS THERE.

NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW...

I'VE BURRIED THAT SCARY DREAM.

IF NO ONE KNOWS, IT CAN BE THE SAME AS IF IT NEVER HAPPENED AT ALL.

SO I'M SECRETLY REWRITING MY MEMORIES.

BECAUSE IT NEVER HAPPENED.

[EOF]